

**September 20, 2021**

**Memorandum to:** Directors of Education  
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities

**From:** Nancy Naylor  
Deputy Minister

**Subject:** **Rapid Antigen Testing: Indemnification of School Boards**

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As you are aware the *Rapid Antigen Testing Instructions & Verification Updates* memo, released on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, provided further instructions regarding the rapid antigen testing requirements to support the immunization disclosure policy, as well as information to support the local verification process for testing.

The memo also indicated that the ministry would provide further details about the indemnification of school boards for use of the **Thrive Health app**.

This information can be found in the attached document, *Rapid Antigen Indemnity*. In addition, the following items are attached for your reference (please note, these agreements are for reference only and not for signature):

- The CDL RSC Participant Letter of Agreement
  - Please note, as school boards are receiving test kits directly from the provincial government, Section 4 - Supply of Covid-19 Screening Devices and references to on-site screening programs are not applicable.
- The Thrive Health Software Agreement (Sample)

School boards are encouraged to register as soon as possible to allow enough time for onboarding and set-up. To get started, please register your school board via the CDL registration [link](#). You will receive a digital copy of the attached agreements for signature. As part of the onboarding and set-up process, once registered CDL will provide a link to attend a kick-off webinar in the language you registered in. Please connect with CDL directly if you have any questions.

As a reminder, if school boards choose to implement an alternative verification approach there are also additional reporting requirements to the Ministry of Health (MOH). As communicated in the *Rapid Antigen Testing Instructions & Verification Updates* memo, released on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Provincial Antigen Screening Program requires that all organizations receiving free antigen screening tests submit

weekly reporting to the MOH. Using the Thrive app allows organizations to fully meet this requirement and would not require any additional, regular reporting to MOH.

If organizations choose to use another tool for verification, they will be required to report weekly an aggregated data set to the provincial government. The following information will be required from participating organizations:

1. The type of rapid test used.
2. Number of rapid antigen tests used.
3. Number of invalid rapid antigen test results.
4. Number of individuals who tested positive with a rapid antigen test.
5. Number of individuals who tested negative with a rapid antigen test.

### Privacy

School boards must ensure compliance with all applicable legislation for the use of the Thrive Health app.

With respect to the protection of privacy and the appropriate use of high sensitivity data, the Ministry of Education will work with school boards and the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services Cyber Security Division to assess privacy obligations. Further information will be shared shortly regarding Privacy Impact Assessments. In addition, school boards are encouraged to connect with CDL directly if they require further details on privacy provisions in place

Thank you again for your efforts to comply with these requirements, and your on-going efforts to keep students, staff and our communities safe.

Sincerely,

Nancy Naylor  
Deputy Minister

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Executive Director, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)  
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